Application No. 10/686,710

Art Unit: 2423

**REMARKS** 

Upon entry of the amendments in this paper, claims 1-9 will be pending in the above-

identified application. Claims 1, 3 and 5 are herein amended. Claims 6-9 are herein added. No

new matter is entered. It is respectfully submitted that this paper is fully responsive to the Office

action mailed on June 24, 2009.

Interview Summary Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.133:

Applicants thank the examiner and his supervisor for graciously scheduling and

conducting an interview with applicants' representative on September 22, 2009. The contents of

that interview are reflected in applicants' amendments to the claims and the following remarks.

Claim Objections

Claims 3 and 5 were objected to because the examiner does not consider the claim

language to be clear. Applicants have amended claims 3 and 5 and submit that the claims are in

proper form. As such, applicants respectfully ask that the rejection be withdrawn.

On the Merits

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Son et al.,

U.S. Pat. No. 7,159,233 B2 (hereinafter Son) in view of Binder et al., U.S. Pub. No.

2003/0095783 Al (hereinafter Binder).

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Application No. 10/686,710 Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.114

Art Unit: 2423 Attorney Docket No. 032024

As discussed in the interview of September 22, 2009, applicants respectfully submit that

the features of claim 1, as presented above, are not disclosed or fairly suggested by the cited

references.

As such, applicants ask that the examiner withdraw the rejections and allow the

application.

Claims 2-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Son in view

of Binder and Kenner et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,956,716 (hereinafter Kenner).

As claims 2-5 each ultimately depend from claim 1, applicants respectfully submit that as

the features of claim 1 distinguish over the cited references, claims 2-5 also distinguish over the

cited art.

New Claims 6-9:

Applicants respectfully submit that the features of claims 6-9 are disclosed or rendered

obvious by the cited references and as such, respectfully ask that the examiner allow the claims.

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Application No. 10/686,710 Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 Art Unit: 2423 Attorney Docket No. 032024

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants

submit that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request

such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the

Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to

expedite the disposition of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate

extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect

to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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